

**Claims**

What is claimed is:

1        1.        A method of financing payments to providers of medical services to  
2 patients, comprising:  
3                the patients making payments to a payor in exchange for the payor's  
4                        promise to provide medical RVUs to the patients;  
5                the payor making payments to an auxiliary service provider in exchange  
6                        for the auxiliary service provider's promise to provide medical RVUs  
7                        to the patients; and  
8                the auxiliary service provider making a payment to a primary service  
9                        provider in exchange for the primary service provider's promise to  
10                        provide a block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1        2.        The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                the auxiliary service provider maintaining an account receivable that is  
3                        representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4                        has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1        3.        The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is  
3                        representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4                        has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1        4.        The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2                the auxiliary service provider maintaining an account receivable that is  
3                        representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4                        has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients; and  
5                the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is

6 representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
7 has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the payments from the payor to the  
2 auxiliary service provider comprise capitation payments.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the payments from the payor to the  
2 auxiliary service provide comprise fee for service payments.

1 7. A method of financing payments to providers of medical services to  
2 patients, comprising:  
3 the patients making payments to one or more payors in exchange for the  
4 payors' promises to provide medical RVUs to the patients;  
5 the payors making payments to one or more auxiliary service providers in  
6 exchange for the auxiliary service providers' promises to provide  
7 medical RVUs to the patients;  
8 the auxiliary service providers bidding on blocks of medical RVUs offered  
9 for sale by one or more primary service providers in a medical RVU  
10 trading system; and  
11 the auxiliary service providers contracting with one or more of the primary  
12 service providers using the medical RVU trading system.

1 8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:  
2 the auxiliary service provider maintaining an account receivable that is  
3 representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4 has provided the contracted for block of medical RVUs to the  
5 patients.

1        9.        The method of claim 7, further comprising:  
2                the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is  
3                        representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4                        has provided the contracted for block of medical RVUs to the  
5                        patients.

1        10.       The method of claim 7, further comprising:  
2                the auxiliary service provider maintaining an account receivable that is  
3                        representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4                        has provided the contracted for block of medical RVUs to the  
5                        patients; and  
6                the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is  
7                        representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
8                        has provided the contracted for block of medical RVUs to the  
9                        patients.

1        11.       The method of claim 7, wherein the payments from the payor to the  
2                auxiliary service provider comprise capitation payments.

1        12.       The method of claim 7, wherein the payments from the payor to the  
2                auxiliary service provide comprise fee for service payments.

1        13.       A method of financing payments to providers of medical services to  
2                patients, comprising:  
3                        the patients making a payment to a primary service provider in exchange  
4                        for the primary service provider's promise to provide a block of  
5                        medical RVUs to the patients.

1     14.   The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
2           the patients maintaining an account receivable that is representative of  
3           the degree to which the primary service provider has provided the  
4           block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1     15.   The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
2           the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is  
3           representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4           has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1     16.   The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
2           the patients maintaining an account receivable that is representative of  
3           the degree to which the primary service provider has provided the  
4           block of medical RVUs to the patients; and  
5           the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is  
6           representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
7           has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1     17.   The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
2           the primary service provider issuing bonds payable in blocks of medical  
3           RVUs; and  
4           the patients purchasing the bonds.

1     18.   A method of financing payments to providers of medical services to  
2     patients, comprising:  
3           the patients bidding on blocks of medical RVUs offered for sale by one or  
4           more primary service providers in a medical RVU trading system;  
5           and

6           the patients contracting with one or more of the primary service providers  
7           using the medical RVU trading system.

1       19.   The method of claim 18, further comprising:  
2           the patients maintaining an account receivable that is representative of  
3           the degree to which the primary service provider has provided the  
4           block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1       20.   The method of claim 18, further comprising:  
2           the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is  
3           representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
4           has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients.

1       21.   The method of claim 18, further comprising:  
2           the patients maintaining an account receivable that is representative of  
3           the degree to which the primary service provider has provided the  
4           block of medical RVUs to the patients; and  
5           the primary service provider maintaining an account payable that is  
6           representative of the degree to which the primary service provider  
7           has provided the block of medical RVUs to the patients